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**PATENT**



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**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Lance J. Gay, et al.  
Serial No. : 10/005,786<sup>68</sup>  
Filing Date : November 8, 2001  
For : SIMULTANEOUS VIEWING OF  
VIDEO FILES ON NETWORKED  
COMPUTER SYSTEMS  
Group Art Unit : 2623  
Examiner : Farzna E. Hossain  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**APPEAL BRIEF**

Sir:

Pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed in this case on October 3, 2006,

Appellants presents their Brief on appeal.

**I. TABLE OF CONTENTS**

II.	REAL PARTY IN INTEREST.....	3
III.	RELATED APPEAL AND INTERFERENCES.....	3
IV.	STATUS OF CLAIMS.....	3
V.	STATUS OF AMENDMENTS.....	4
VI.	SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER.....	4
VII.	GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEW ON APPEAL.....	11
VIII.	ARGUMENTS FOR CLAIMS 1-25 .....	11
IX.	APPENDICES.....	20
	Claims Appendix.....	21
	Evidence Appendix.....	30
	Related Proceedings Appendix .....	31

**II. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST**

The real party in interest is Northrop Grumman Corporation, as indicated by the recorded Assignment, Reel/Frame: 013751/0849.

**III. RELATED APPEAL AND INTERFERENCES**

There are no related appeals or interferences.

**IV. STATUS OF CLAIMS**

Claims 1-25 which are attached in Appendix A, are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 12-14, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,808,662 to Kinney, et al. ("Kinney") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,867,156 to Beard, et al. ("Beard"). Claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinney in view of Beard and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,230,171 to Pacifici, et al. ("Pacifici"). Claim 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinney in view of Beard and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,343,313 to Salesky, et al. ("Salesky").

The rejection of claims 1-25 is appealed.

**V. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS**

A response to a Final Office Action (hereinafter, "Final Rejection") issued on May 30, 2006 was filed on July 13, 2006. Amendments to the claims that were filed after the Final Rejection were entered by the Examiner. An Advisory Action Before Filing an Appeal Brief (hereinafter, "Advisory Action") dated July 26, 2006 was issued. The Advisory Action indicated that the request for reconsideration set forth in the Response to the Final Rejection was considered, but did not place the application in condition for allowance.

**VI. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER**

One aspect of the present invention, as recited in claim 1 is directed to a method comprising selecting at least one frame of a video file at a first location (Para. [0040] and 518 of FIG. 8). The method also comprises communicating the selecting of the at least one frame of a video file to a second location (Para. [0040] and 518 of FIG. 8) and viewing the at least one frame of a video file at the first location and the second location (Para. [0040] and 520 of FIG. 8). The method further comprises issuing a command at the second location regarding a control operation of the video file (Para. [0037] and 506 of FIG. 8) and transmitting a command signal from the second location to the first location in response to the issued command (Para. [0037] and 506 of FIG. 8). The method still further comprises receiving, at the first location, the command signal (Para.

[0037] and 508 of FIG. 8) and broadcasting the command signal from the first location to the second location (Para. [0031] and 314 of FIG. 6). The method yet further comprises performing, at the first location and the second location, the control operation in response to receipt of the command signal (Para. [0031] and [0032]).

Dependent claim 2 is directed to the method of claim 1, further comprising communicating the selecting of the at least one frame of a video file to a third location (Para. [0030] and 206 of FIG. 5) and viewing the at least one frame of the video file at the third location with the first location and the second location (Para. [0030] and 208 of FIG. 5). Claim 2 also recites wherein broadcasting a command signal from the first location to the second location further comprises broadcasting the command signal to the third location (Para. [0031] and 314 of FIG. 6) and performing, at the first location, the second location and the third location a control operation in response to receipt of the command signal (Para. [0031]).

Dependent claim 3 is directed to the method of claim 1, wherein the command signal comprises a one byte command identification (Para. [0026] and 102 of FIG. 4).

Dependent claim 5 is directed to the method of claim 3, wherein one bit of the one byte command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of the video file and a pointer command (Para. [0027]).

Another aspect to the present invention, as recited in claim 8 is directed to a method comprising selecting a video to view at a first system (Para. [0030] and 206 of FIG. 5) and communicating the selecting of the video to a second system and a third system (Para. [0030] and 206 of FIG. 5). The method also comprises providing a video on a first screen of the first system, a second screen of the second system and a third screen of the third system (Para. [0030] and 208 of FIG. 5) and issuing a command at the second system regarding a control operation of the video file (Para. [0031] and 302 of FIG. 6). The method further comprises transmitting a command signal from the second system to the first system in response to the issued command (Para. [0031] and 312 of FIG. 6) and broadcasting the command signal from the first system to the second system and the third system (Para. [0031] and 314 of FIG. 6). The method yet further comprises performing an operation corresponding to the transmitted command signal at the first system, the second system and the third system in response to receipt of the command signal (Paras. [0031] and [0032]).

Dependent claim 8 is directed to the method of claim 10, wherein the command signal comprises a one byte command identification (Para. [0026] and 102 of FIG. 4), and one bit of the one byte command identification represents one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of the video and a pointer command (Para. [0027]).

Yet another aspect to the present invention, as recited in claim 13 is directed to a method comprising selecting a video to view at a first system (Para. [0030] and 206 of FIG. 5) and communicating the selecting of the video to a second system (Para. [0030] and 206 of FIG. 5). The method also comprises displaying the video on a first video screen associated with the first system (Para. [0030] and 208 of FIG. 5) and displaying the video on a second video screen associated with the second system (Para. [0030] and 208 of FIG. 5). The method further comprises substantially simultaneously performing at least one operation on the first video screen and the second video screen by transmitting at least one command signal across a communications network from the second system to the first system (Para. [0031] and 312 of FIG. 6), and broadcasting the at least one command signal to the second system from the first system across the communication network (Para. [0031] and 314 of FIG. 6).

Dependent claim 14 is directed to the method of claim 13, further comprising communicating the selecting of the video to a third system (Para. [0030] and 206 of FIG. 5), and displaying the video on a third video screen associated with the third system (Para. [0030] and 208 of FIG. 5). The method also recites wherein broadcasting the at least one command signal to the second system from the first system across the communication network further comprises substantially simultaneously broadcasting the at least one command signal to the second system and the third system from the first system across the

communication network (Para. [0031] and 314 of FIG. 6). The method further recites performing the at least one operation on the third video screen substantially simultaneously as the at least one operation performed on the first video screen and the second video screen (Para. [0031]).

Dependent claim 15 is directed to the method of claim 13, wherein the at least one command signal comprises a one byte command identification (Para. [0026] and 102 of FIG. 4), wherein one bit of the command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of the video and a pointer command (Para. [0027]).

Still another aspect of the present invention, as recited in claim 18 is directed to a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method (Para. [0024] and 12, 17, 18 and 19 of FIG. 2). The method comprises launching a synchronous player program at a first computer system (Para. [0034] and 402 of FIG. 7) and selecting a video file for viewing at the first computer system (Para. [0034] and 406 of FIG. 7). The method also comprises displaying the video file at the first computer system (Para. [0036] and 502 of FIG. 7) and communicating the selecting of the a video file to a second computer system (Para. [0034] and 414 of FIG. 7) causing the second computer system to launch a synchronous player program (Para. [0034] and 410 of FIG. 7) and display the video file at the second computer system (Para. [0036] and 504 of FIG. 8). The method further



comprises broadcasting a first command signal from the first computer system to the second computer system regarding a first control operation of the video file, (Para. [0031] and 308 of FIG. 6) wherein the first command signal causes the second computer system to perform the first control operation (Para. [0031]). The method still further comprises performing the first control operation on the first computer system (Para. [0031] and 306 of FIG. 6) and receiving a second command signal from the second computer system regarding a second control operation of the video file (Para. [0031]). The method yet further comprises broadcasting the second command signal from the first computer system to the second computer system (Para. [0031] and 314 of FIG. 6), wherein the second command signal causes the second computer system to perform the second control operation in response to receipt of the second command signal (Para. [0032]). The method yet even further comprises performing the second control operation on the first computer system in response to receipt of the second command signal (Para. [0031]).

Dependent claim 19 is directed to the program storage device of claim 18, wherein the command signal comprises a one byte command identification (Para. [0026] and 102 of FIG. 4), wherein one bit of the command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of the video file and a pointer command (Para. [0027]).

Yet still another aspect of the present invention, as recited in claim 22 is directed to a computer system comprising at least one processing unit (11 of FIG. 2), at least a video display (16 of FIG. 2) and at least one storage device (12, 17, 18 and 19 of FIG. 2), the storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processing unit to perform a method (Para. [0024]). The method comprises broadcasting a first command signal from the computer system to another computer system regarding a first control operation of a video file (Para. [0031]) and 308 of FIG. 6) and performing the first control operation on the computer system (Para. [0031]). The method also comprises receiving a second command signal from the another computer system regarding a second control operation of the video file (Para. [0031]) and broadcasting the second command signal from the computer system to the another computer system (Para. [0031]), wherein the second command signal causes the another computer system to perform the second control operation in response to receipt of the second command signal (Para. [0032]). The method further comprises performing the second control operation on the computer system in response to receipt of the second command signal from the another computer system (Para. [0031]).

Dependent claim 23 is directed to the program storage device of claim 22, wherein the command signal comprises a one byte command identification (Para. [0026] and 102 of FIG. 4), wherein one bit of the one byte command

identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of the video file and a pointer command (Para. [0027]).

**VII. GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEW ON APPEAL**

- A. Whether claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 12-14, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 25 are made obvious by Kinney in view of Beard?
- B. Whether claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 are made obvious by Kinney in view of Beard and in further view of Pacifici?
- C. Whether claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 are made obvious by Kinney in view of Beard and in further view of Salesky?

**VIII. ARGUMENTS FOR CLAIMS 1-25**

**A. 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 12-14, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 25 as Being Unpatentable over Kinney in view of Beard**

The Court of Customs and Patent Appeals has held that to establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 985, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580 (C.C.P.A. 1974).

**1. The Obviousness Rejection of Claim 1, 13, 18 and 22**

Claim 1 recites transmitting a command signal from a second location to a first location in response to an issued command, receiving, at the first location, the command signal, and broadcasting the command signal from the first location

to the second location. Claim 13 recites transmitting at least one command signal across a communications network from a second system to a first system, and broadcasting the at least one command signal to the second system from the first system across the communications network. Claim 18 recites receiving a second command signal from a second computer system regarding a second control operation of a video file and broadcasting the second command signal from the second computer system to the first computer system. Claim 22 recites receiving a second command signal from another computer system regarding a control operation of a video file and broadcasting the second command signal from a computer system to the another computer system. Thus, claims 1, 13 and 22 each recite that a command signal is broadcast from a first entity (e.g., a first location, a first computer system and a computer system) to a second entity (e.g., a second location, a second computer system and another computer system) in response to receipt of the command signal.

Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest broadcasting a command signal from a first entity to a second entity in response to receipt of the command signal, as recited in claims 1, 13, 18 and 22. In the Final Rejection, the Examiner admits that Kinney does not teach or suggest this element of claims 1, 13, 18 and 22 (See Final Response, Pages 3, 9, 11-12 and 14), to which Applicant's representative agrees. However in the Final Rejection, the Examiner contends that the addition of Beard makes up for the deficiencies of

Kinney. Applicant's representative respectfully disagrees. In rejecting claims 1, 13, 18 and 22, the Examiner cites Col. 6, Lines 23-56 of Beard (See Final Rejection, Pages 6, 10, 12, 14). However, the cited section of Beard discloses that an application sharing guest application (ASGA) 38 issues a REQUEST TO SYNC message 56 to an application sharing host application (ASHA) 37 of host 30 and the ASHA 37 issues a SYNC TO POINT command 55 to an ASGA 38 of all participating guests (See Beard, Col. 6, Lines 49-56). In claims 1, 13, 18 and 22, the same command signal is sent from a second entity, to a first entity, (or simply received at the first entity) and broadcast from the first entity to the second entity in response to receipt of the command signal. In contrast, Beard discloses that two separate commands are issued, namely a REQUEST TO SYNC and a SYNC TO POINT.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner states that in the Application's specification, a command is transmitted from a computer system other than an originator and the originator then broadcasts the command to all other computer systems (See Advisory Action, Page 2 citing Spec. Para. [0032]). The Examiner contends that such a disclosure shows that the command signal is altered. Applicant's representative respectfully submits that in the Advisory Action, the Examiner is misconstruing the term "command signal," as recited in claims 1, 13, 18 and 22. Typically, communications over a network, such as data communications network 50 disclosed in the present application (or the

communications network recited in claim 14), would require the transmission of one or more data packets.

The data packets would include, for example, a header and a payload. It appears that the Examiner is arguing that altering the header of such a packet would be altering the command signal. Applicant's representative respectfully disagrees with this contention.

From the present Application's specification, it would be clear to one skilled in the art that the command signal would be implemented as part the payload of a data packet, and not part of the header of the packet. Therefore, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that altering the header (to change/set a destination of the packet) would not change the command signal recited in claims 1, 13, 18 and 22. Such an implementation would allow the same command signal to be sent over a plurality of different physical network configurations (e.g., Ethernet, Token Ring, etc.) as well as a plurality of network protocols (TCP/IP, IPv6, etc.), wherein depending on the network architecture, the command signal recited in claims 1, 13, 18 and 22 could be part of a single packet carrying other information in the payload, or the command signal could span multiple packets. In either case, the command signal would stay the same, but the respective headers would be different. Accordingly, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that in claims 1, 13, 18 and 22, the command signal that is transmitted from the second entity to the first entity (or received at

the first entity), is the same command signal that is broadcast from the first entity to the second entity. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest broadcasting a command signal from a first entity to a second entity in response to receipt of the command signal, as recited in claims 1, 13, 18 and 22. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Kinney taken in view of Beard not teach or suggest each and every element of claims 1, 13, 18 and 22.

For the reasons stated above, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not make claims 1, 13, 18 and 22 obvious, and claims 1, 13, 18 and 22 should be patentable over the cited art. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 13, 18 and 22 be withdrawn.

**2. The Obviousness Rejection of Claims 2, 8 and 14**

Claims 2, 8 and 14 each recite broadcasting a command signal from a first entity to a second entity and a third entity in response to receipt of the command signal. Claims 2, 8 and 14 illustrate that the same command signal recited in claims 2, 8 and 14, is sent multiple times. In claims 2, 8 and 14, the command signal is sent from a second entity to a first entity, and broadcast from the first entity to the second and third entities. As stated above with respect to claims 1, 13, 18 and 22, Kinney taken in view of Beard does not teach or suggest broadcasting a command signal from the first entity to the second entity in response to receipt of the command signal. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of

Beard does not teach or suggest that broadcasting the command signal from the first entity to the second entity comprises broadcasting the command signal to a third entity, as recited in claims 2, 8 and 14. Thus, Kinney taken in view of Beard fails to teach or suggest each and every element of claims 2, 8 and 14.

Accordingly, Applicant's representative respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 2, 8 and 14 be withdrawn.

**3. The Obviousness Rejection of Claims 4, 7, 9, 12, 17, 21 and 25**

Claims 4, 7, 9, 12, 17, 21 and 25 depend either directly or indirectly from claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22, respectively, and are not made obvious by Kinney in view of Beard for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22 and for the specific elements recited therein. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 4, 7, 9, 12, 17 and 21 should be withdrawn.

**B. 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection of Claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 as Being Unpatentable Over Kinney in view of Beard and in further view of Pacifici.**

Claims 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 depend from claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22, respectively. The Examiner cites Pacifici for disclosing that a command signal comprises a pointer coordinate position of a video screen. The further addition of Pacifici does not make up for the aforementioned deficiencies of Kinney taken in view of Beard, with respect to claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22 from which claims 6, 11,



16, 20 and 24 respectively depend. Therefore, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claim 6, 11, 16, 20 and 24 should be patentable over the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**C. 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection of Claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 as Being Unpatentable Over Kinney in view of Beard and in further view of Salesky.**

Claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 depend from claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22 respectively. The further addition of Salesky does not make up for the aforementioned deficiencies of Kinney taken in view of Beard with respect to claims 1, 8, 13, 18 and 22. Therefore, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 should be patentable over the cited art.

Additionally, claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 each recite that a command signal comprises a one byte command identification. The Examiner contends that Salesky discloses a one byte command identification (See Final Rejection, Page 18, Citing Salesky Col. 11, Lines 19-55). Applicant's representative respectfully disagrees with this contention. Salesky discloses sending commands that only require about 12 bytes of data (See Salesky, Col. 11, Lines 35-37). Salesky also discloses that 300 data bytes could be compressed to as little as 5 data bytes (See Salesky, Col. 11, Lines 46-52). Claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 each recite that a command signal comprises a one byte command

identification. Nothing in Salesky discloses that data could be compressed to one byte. Therefore, Kinney taken in view of Beard and in further view of Salesky does not teach or suggest each and every element of claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23.

Moreover, the Examiner contends that the concept of bytes are not inventive as bytes are well known (See Final Rejection, Page 18). In as much as bytes are well known, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that a command signal comprising a one byte command identification is a patentable idea, as recited in claim 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23, since in the cited art, a larger number of bytes (e.g., 5 bytes as disclosed in Salesky) are needed to convey useful information. Reducing the number of bytes required to send a command signal results in a reduction of network latency, and a reduced operational bandwidth, both of which are desirable. Accordingly, Applicant's representative respectfully submits that claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 recite inventive subject matter.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner admits that Salesky does not disclose data being compressed to one byte (See Advisory Action, Page 2). However, the Examiner contends that it is well known in the art to compress data and bytes. Assuming *arguendo* that this is true, Applicant's representative submits that the Examiner has not shown that it is well known to compress a command signal into a one byte command identification.

Furthermore, claims 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 also recite that one bit of a one byte command identification comprises one stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of a video file and a pointer command. Nothing in Salesky teaches or suggests that any one bit of data can characterize any particular data.

Therefore, in addition to the reasons stated above, Kinney taken in view of Beard and in further view of Salesky does not teach or suggest each and every element of claims 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23.

For the reasons described above, claims 3, 5, 10, 15, 19 and 23 are not made obvious by Kinney taken in view of Beard and in further view of Salesky. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**IX. APPENDICES**

The first attached Appendix contains a copy of the claims on appeal.

The second and third Appendices have been included to comply with statutory requirements.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this Appeal Brief to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Claims Appendix**

Claim 1        A method comprising:

selecting at least one frame of a video file at a first location;

communicating the selecting of said at least one frame of a video file to a second location;

viewing said at least one frame of a video file at said first location and said second location;

issuing a command at said second location regarding a control operation of said video file;

transmitting a command signal from said second location to said first location in response to said issued command;

receiving, at said first location, said command signal;

broadcasting said command signal from said first location to said second location; and

performing, at said first location and said second location, said control operation in response to receipt of said command signal.

Claim 2        The method of claim 1, further comprising:

communicating the selecting of said at least one frame of a video file to a third location;

viewing said at least one frame of said video file at said third location with said first location and said second location;

wherein said broadcasting said command signal from said first location to said second location further comprises broadcasting said command signal to said third location; and

performing, at said first location, said second location and said third location, said control operation in response to receipt of said command signal.

Claim 3        The method of claim 1, wherein said command signal comprises a one byte command identification.

Claim 4        The method of claim 1, wherein said control operation is performed at said first location substantially simultaneously as said control operation is performed at said second location.

Claim 5        The method of claim 3, wherein one bit of said one byte command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of said video file and a pointer command.

Claim 6        The method of claim 1, wherein said command signal comprises a pointer coordinate position of a video screen.

Claim 7        The method of claim 1, wherein said command signal comprises a frame number of said video file.

Claim 8        A method comprising:

- selecting a video to view at a first system;
- communicating the selecting of the video to a second system and a third system;
- providing a video on a first screen of said first system, a second screen of said second system and a third screen of said third system;
- issuing a command at said second system regarding a control operation of said video file;
- transmitting a command signal from said second system to said first system in response to said issued command;
- broadcasting said command signal from said first system to said second system and said third system; and
- performing an operation corresponding to said transmitted command signal at said first system, said second system and said third system in response to receipt of said command signal.

Claim 9      The method of claim 8, wherein said operation is performed at said first system substantially simultaneously as said operation is performed at said second system and said third system.

Claim 10     The method of claim 8, wherein said command signal comprises a one byte command identification, and one bit of the one byte command identification represents one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of said video and a pointer command.

Claim 11     The method of claim 8, wherein said command signal comprises a pointer coordinate position of a video screen representing specific coordinates of said video screen.

Claim 12     The method of claim 8, wherein said command signal comprises a frame number of said video signal representing a specific frame number of said video.

Claim 13     A method comprising:  
selecting a video to view at a first system;  
communicating the selecting of the video to a second system;



displaying the video on a first video screen associated with the first system;  
displaying said video on a second video screen associated with the second system; and

substantially simultaneously performing at least one operation on said first video screen and said second video screen by transmitting at least one command signal across a communications network from said second system to said first system, and broadcasting said at least one command signal to said second system from said first system across the communication network.

Claim 14      The method of claim 13, further comprising:

communicating the selecting of the video to a third system;  
displaying said video on a third video screen associated with said third system;

wherein broadcasting said at least one command signal to said second system from said first system across the communication network further comprises substantially simultaneously broadcasting said at least one command signal to said second system and said third system from said first system across the communication network; and

performing said at least one operation on said third video screen substantially simultaneously as said at least one operation performed on said first video screen and said second video screen.

Claim 15      The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one command signal comprises a one byte command identification, wherein one bit of the command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of said video and a pointer command.

Claim 16      The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one command signal comprises a pointer coordinate position of a video screen representing specific coordinates of said video screen.

Claim 17      The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one command signal comprises a frame number of said video representing a specific frame number of said video.

Claim 18      A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method comprising:

- launching a synchronous player program at a first computer system;
- selecting a video file for viewing at said first computer system;
- displaying the video file at said first computer system;

communicating the selecting of said a video file to a second computer system causing said second computer system to launch a synchronous player program and display the video file at said second computer system;

broadcasting a first command signal from said first computer system to said second computer system regarding a first control operation of said video file, wherein said first command signal causes said second computer system to perform said first control operation;

performing said first control operation on said first computer system;

receiving a second command signal from said second computer system regarding a second control operation of said video file;

broadcasting said second command signal from said first computer system to said second computer system, wherein said second command signal causes said second computer system to perform said second control operation in response to receipt of said second command signal; and

performing said second control operation on said first computer system in response to receipt of said second command signal.

Claim 19     The program storage device of claim 18, wherein said command signal comprises a one byte command identification, wherein one bit of the command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of said video file and a pointer command.

Claim 20     The program storage device of claim 18, wherein said command signal comprises a pointer coordinate position of a video screen.

Claim 21     The program storage device of claim 18, wherein said command signal comprises a frame number of said video file.

Claim 22     A computer system comprising at least one processing unit, at least a video display and at least one storage device, said storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processing unit to perform a method comprising:

              broadcasting a first command signal from said computer system to another computer system regarding a first control operation of a video file;

              performing said first control operation on said computer system;

              receiving a second command signal from said another computer system regarding a second control operation of said video file;

              broadcasting said second command signal from said computer system to said another computer system, wherein said second command signal causes said another computer system to perform said second control operation in response to receipt of said second command signal; and

performing said second control operation on said computer system in response to receipt of said second command signal from said another computer system.

Claim 23      The program storage device of claim 22, wherein said command signal comprises a one byte command identification, wherein one bit of the one byte command identification comprises one of stop, play, forward, reverse and pause of said video file and a pointer command.

Claim 24      The program storage device of claim 22, wherein said command signal comprises a pointer coordinate position of said video display.

Claim 25      The program storage device of claim 22, wherein said command signal comprises a frame number of said video file.

**Evidence Appendix**

None

**Related Proceedings Appendix**

None